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Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Thursday - 11 February 1954

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1. Mr. Roger Jones, Assistant Director of the Bureau of the Budget, called me on an unofficial basis to ask what ~~restrictions~~ <sup>instructions</sup> CIA had sent to other agencies regarding the downgrading of CIA Restricted documents under Executive Order 10501. He stated that there were charges against several agencies to the effect that they had ordered a mass upgrading of Restricted documents to Confidential and that he was trying to avoid an official flap being made of it. After talking with Col. White, Col. Edwards, and Mr. [ ] of OCD (the CIA Classification Officer), I informed Mr. Jones that CIA had issued no general restrictions to other agencies on this subject until its first declassification bulletin issued on 1 February 1954. This bulletin, the first of a series, had raised 32 documents from Restricted to Confidential, downgraded 15 from Restricted to Unrestricted, and downgraded 32 to Unrestricted For Official Use Only. Of the latter, some 30 were translations of foreign documents which could not remain unclassified or become available for public use, as in many instances it would probably be in violation of the copyright law to have made the translations unauthorized. In any event, there have been no restrictions to other agencies to upgrade CIA Restricted documents to Confidential, and this satisfied Mr. Jones.

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4. Mr. Kirkpatrick and I met with the newspaper man who is the author of the memorandum set forth in paragraph 1 of the Journal of 11 February. The author of the memorandum indicated that he had no desire to print any of it and was satisfied merely to bring it to our attention because if the facts were substantially true he felt that the country would be in bad shape. He feels that enough Democrats are aware of this material to consider the possibility of utilizing it as campaign ammunition without regard to its accuracy as some people believe it simply by the force of repetition.

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